

1

Luke 19:29-40

And it came to pass, when He drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mountain called Olivet, *that* He sent two of His disciples, ³⁰ saying, “Go into the village opposite *you*, where as you enter you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Loose it and bring *it here*. ³¹ And if anyone asks you, ‘Why are you loosing *it?*’ thus you shall say to him, ‘Because the Lord has need of it.’ ”

³² So those who were sent went their way and found *it* just as He had said to them. ³³ But as they were loosing the colt, the owners of it said to them, “Why are you loosing the colt?”

³⁴ And they said, “The Lord has need of him.” ³⁵ Then they brought him to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes on the colt, and they set Jesus on him. ³⁶ And as He went, *many* spread their clothes on the road.

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Luke 19:29-40

³⁷ Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, ³⁸ saying:

“ ‘Blessed *is* the King who comes in the name of the Lord!’
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

³⁹ And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, “Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.”

⁴⁰ But He answered and said to them, “I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out.”

3

Season of Passover and Unleavened Bread

- Excitement is building in Jerusalem. It is the time of Passover. This is one the required feasts, and people from all over the world were traveling to Jerusalem.
- Passover was a celebration of remembrance of how God delivered His people from the bondage of Egypt.
- Bondage to Egypt was a picture of bondage to sin, and the consequences of sin is death. On Passover, the angel of death, passed over those who had applied the blood of the Passover lamb to their house. So in a real sense, Passover not only represents freedom from sin’s bondage, but also, it’s consequences. We will look more at this next week.

4

Season of Passover and Unleavened Bread

- It was also exciting as many people were following Jesus. The question on many minds was if this was the time that Jesus would announce Himself as the Messiah and rightful king of Israel.
- When Jesus came to Jerusalem, He first came to Lazarus' house.
- That very day that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey was the day that Jewish people called "Lamb Selection Day" – 10th day of the month of Nisan - when the lambs that were going to be sacrificed in the Temple for Passover were brought into the city.

5

Season of Passover and Unleavened Bread

- Exodus 12:3-5 tells us that at the first Passover in Egypt, God had commanded the Jewish people to take a lamb into each home and scrutinize each lamb to ensure that it was without blemish.
- The lamb was inspected for 4 days and then if it met the criteria – no blemishes – it was slain on the 14th day of Nisan – the first day of Passover.
- JESUS rode into Jerusalem on the 10th of Nisan – on Lamb Selection Day! HE rode into His family – to be scrutinized by them for 4 days.

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Season of Passover and Unleavened Bread

- It's Lamb Selection day – 4 days prior to Passover. Jesus is riding into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey. He's entering Jerusalem along with all the animal Passover lambs.
- John the Baptist pointed to this "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!"
- How did the people respond to Jesus at His arrival? (Matt. 21:8 – cut down palm branches and spread them on the road. Mark 11:8 tells us the same.) John 12:12 tells us that the people took palm branches and went out to meet Him.
- Is that how Jewish people celebrated Passover? NO!

7

Season of Passover and Unleavened Bread

- Palm branches were gathered at the FEAST OF TABERNACLES.
- For the Feast of Tabernacles, God instructed the people to gather palm branches (along with willow & myrtle branches) – to make booths for the purpose of looking forward to the time when God would DWELL with His people? (Lev. 23:40; Neh. 8:15)
- "TO TABERNACLE" means "TO DWELL"

8

Season of Passover and Unleavened Bread

- The Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot) – the last feast that God gave Israel (the 7th feast of the Lord) looks forward to the Millennial Kingdom – the MESSIANIC Kingdom – WHEN GOD WILL DWELL WITH MAN - when the Messiah will reign from the throne of David in Jerusalem (Ex. 25:8; Lev. 23:40).
- The Jewish people – at Passover – were laying branches on the ground before Jesus. This was NOT how they celebrated Passover.

9

The Journey

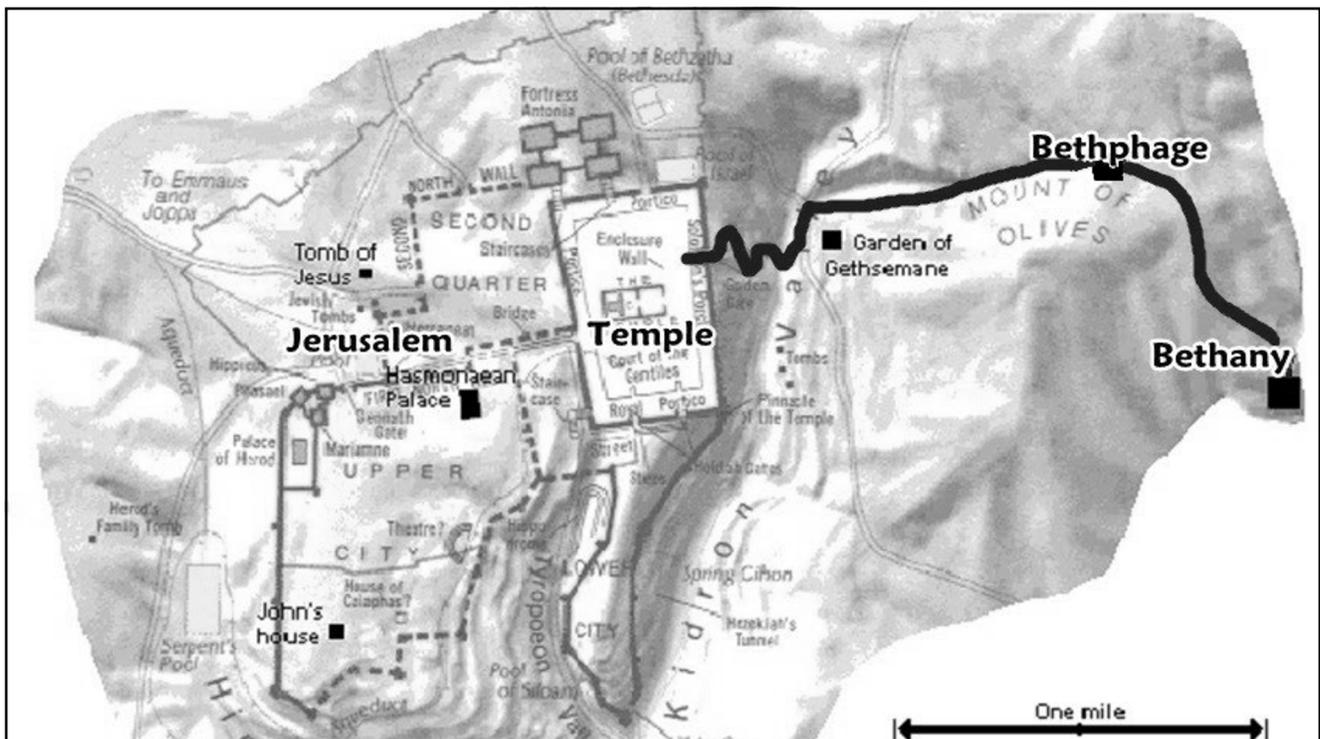
- There is too much symbolism to properly cover here. But Jesus retraces the route that King David followed as he left Jerusalem during Absalom's revolt. But Jesus is traveling it in reverse.
- As they approach the Mount of Olives (2 Samuel 15:30), David weeps and laments of the rejection of Jerusalem. Jesus also stops on His way to Jerusalem and weeps over Jerusalem's rejection.

10

The Journey

- In our Scripture reading, we see that Jesus, at the Mount of Olives, sent His disciples to fetch him a donkey. In Matthew 21:1-2 we discover that there were 2 donkeys a colt and its mother.
- Jesus didn't need the donkeys for transportation. He had already walked across miles of STEEP terrain. The two donkeys were a prop. David had received two donkeys (II. Sam. 16:1-2) at the Mount of Olives as he was going into exile

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12

The Journey

- David's flight on this section of the road had been marked by weeping and heads covered in sorrow. David's people tore their robes and cloaks in grief.
- Jesus' followers were exuberant – lining the roadway with their cloaks and palm branches – making a smooth path so unlike the one the barefoot David walked as he fled Jerusalem.

13

The Journey

- “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Blessed is the King of Israel! Hosanna in the highest).
- The crowds recognized that Jesus was the son of David returning to Jerusalem.
- “Hosanna” –in Hebrew – means, “Save now!”
- The crowds may have been referring to the Romans, Jesus came to conquer a bigger enemy – Sin and Death!

14

The Journey

- The cheering crowd distressed some of the Pharisees who called out to Jesus and said, “Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.” (Luke 19:39)
- Jesus refused and told the Pharisees that if His followers were silenced, the stones would cry out (Luke 19:40).
- The STONES? Why did Jesus mention the stones?

15

The Journey

- What day did Jesus ride into Jerusalem? 10th of Nisan – He had started EAST of the JORDAN RIVER – In Joshua 4:19 we read that Joshua and the children of Israel crossed the Jordan into the Promised Land -- on the 10th of Nisan!!!
- Joshua was instructed by God to set up memorial stones – stones of remembrance.
- WHY?

16

The Journey

- GOD gives us the answer in Joshua 4:4-7 – these stones are to be “. . . a sign among you when your children ask in time to come saying, ‘What do these stones mean to you?’ Then you shall answer them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ARK OF THE COVENANT of the Lord; when it crossed over the Jordan . . . And these stones shall be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever.”

17

Season of Passover and Unleavened Bread

- THE ARK OF THE COVENANT with the MERCY SEAT on top where blood was always sprinkled from sacrifices – (which spoke to God’s presence in the OT) – POINTS to Jesus and His merciful sacrifice for us!
- That Ark crossed the Jordan on the 10th of Nisan!! Was Jesus declaring Himself to the people when He rode into Jerusalem before His crucifixion? Were the STONES crying out – while the people were hailing Him? I believe so. AND –
- Who is the STONE that the builders rejected Who has become the chief cornerstone? (Psalm 118:22) Jesus!

18

Seven Significant Reasons for the Palm Sunday Celebration.

- 1. Jesus is the Son of God! The True King of the Universe**
- 2. Jesus is to be honored and celebrated as the Passover Lamb who saves us from sin and death!**
- 3. Jesus fulfills all OT Prophecies of being Messiah!**
- 4. All things have been given into His Hands now!**
- 5. Jesus was committed to doing the will of the Father.**
- 6. Jesus came to bring Peace to all Mankind through believing in Him and the forgiveness of sins on the cross.**
- 7. Jesus is coming back to set up His Millennial Kingdom.**